

a mere excuse for getting it into her own hands for as long as possible. After a time, however, and with Mrs. I/s renewed suggestion, they agreed to this, and kept up the arrangement amicably all the rest of the morning. (This was the last occasion of any such extreme greed and obstinacy about the tricycle; after this they showed a greater readiness to find some sensible compromise for their conflicting desires.)

May 1927. Conrad constituted himself " the gramophone man ", and bullied the younger children into letting him take charge of it, choose the records and decide everything !

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1. " You gave me considerable help about my little boy M., aged four, last year, but one of the problems I mentioned does not seem to show any sign of being solved. He has a brother one year younger, and takes everything from him that he can get, sometimes there's a fight, but as a rule the younger one being good tempered and for the sake of peace, gives in. The eldest one always asks, ' Is mine bigger ? ' and if we say ' Yes ', all is well. But should he discover that C. has for instance a piece of string an inch or so longer than his, then he works himself up into a passionate frenzy, sobbing the whole time and saying, ' C/s string shouldn't be bigger than mine, it should be snorter, he's smaller than I am and should have the smaller piece/ and to him it appears to be a passionate matter of justice. If we try to reason with him he says, ' I don't care, I *want* to be selfish.' He seems to want things in a passionate sort of way, and the younger child doesn't seem to want things in that passionate way at all. So that for the younger one to give up things does not necessarily mean he is less selfish, but more indifferent."

2. "We would very much like to have your opinion on a problem of our own nursery. It concerns my eldest little boy of six years old. In disposition C. is highly sensitive and a keenly affectionate child. He will weep over

a dead mouse
and if he sees a brother in pain will suffer
almost as much in
sympathy. Usually gentle in his ways
he is perfectly
sweet with his baby brothers whom he protects
and adores.
In one respect, however, he is ungenerous
with the other
children and here lies my difficulty. If a new
toy appears
in the nursery C. at once wants to have it.
Even though
it belongs to the smallest boy, he will have no
hesitation
in appropriating it. Should the owner refuse
to surrender
the coveted object on request, C. will not
usually employ
force to secure it, but will await his
opportunity. Quite
skilfully he will endeavour to
divert his victim's